

Application No.: 10/614,122

Docket No.: 2729-159

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. **(currently amended)** A receiver-drier including a cylindrical body and a lower cap sealing a lower end portion of the body, wherein the body comprises:

a filter support portion sectioning the body into upper and lower portions and having at least one inwardly protruding portion for supporting an upper end portion of ~~[[the]]~~a filter accommodated in the lower portion of the body, the protruding portion being formed by pressing the body inwardly;

at least one refrigerant inlet formed in the upper portion of the body;

a coupling portion disposed between the filter support portion and the lower end portion of the body, the coupling portion being pressed toward the inside of the body and so that an inner surface of the pressed body is coupled to the lower cap by a thread being provided on an inner surface of the pressed body; and

at least one refrigerant outlet disposed between the filter support portion and the coupling portion.

2-3. **(cancelled)**

4. **(original)** The receiver-drier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter support portion further comprises a support ring supported by the protruding portion.

5. **(currently amended)** The receiver-drier as claimed in claim 4, wherein the support ring has a rib extending from an outer circumferential portion of the support ring and parallel to an axial direction of the body and the supporting ring is supported as the rib is inserted in the protruding portion.

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6. (currently amended) The receiver-drier as claimed in claim 4, wherein the support ring has a groove on an outer circumferential side surface of the support ring and the support ring is supported as the ~~pressed~~ protruding portion is inserted in the groove.

7. (currently amended) The receiver-drier as claimed in claim 4, wherein the support ring is supported by the ~~pressed~~ multiple said protruding portions closely contacting upper and lower surfaces of ~~an outer circumferential surface of~~ the support ring.

8. (currently amended) The receiver-drier as claimed in claim 4, wherein the support ring has at least one acute angle portion on an outer circumferential side surface of the support ring and is supported as the acute angle portion is inserted in the ~~pressed~~ protruding portion.

9. (original) The receiver-drier as claimed in claim 1, wherein the body is an extruded tube.

10. (currently amended) The receiver-drier as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein a further~~ comprising said filter for filtering refrigerant, which enters through the refrigerant inlet and is exhausted through the refrigerant outlet, wherein said filter is provided in ~~[[the]]~~ an upper portion of the lower cap.

11-12. (cancelled)

13. (withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a receiver-drier including a body forming step, wherein the body forming step comprises the steps of:
preparing a cylinder enclosed by a wall having a predetermined wall;

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forming a filter support portion sectioning the body into upper and lower portions and having at least one inwardly protruding portion supporting an upper end portion of the filter accommodated in the lower portion of the body;

forming a coupling portion to be coupled to the lower cap on an inner surface of the cylinder between the filter support portion and the lower end portion of the cylinder;

forming at least one refrigerant inlet in the upper portion of the body; and

forming at least one refrigerant outlet between the filter support portion and the coupling portion,

wherein at least one of the filter support portion forming step and the coupling portion forming step comprise a sub-step of pressing the cylinder from outside by rolling.

14. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the filter support portion forming step further comprises a sub-step of inserting a support ring having a rib formed on an outer circumferential portion of the support ring to extend parallel to the cylinder in an inner surface of the protruding portion.

15. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the filter support portion forming step further comprises a sub-step of locating a support ring having a groove on an outer circumferential portion inside the cylinder and pressing the cylinder from outside by rolling to insert the pressed protruding portion in the groove.

16. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the filter support portion forming step further comprises a sub-step of locating a support ring inside the cylinder and pressing the cylinder from outside at upper and lower adjacent positions by rolling to insert the support ring between the pressed protruding portions.

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17. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the filter support portion forming step further comprises a sub-step of locating a support ring having an acute angle portion on the outer circumferential portion of the support ring inside the cylinder and pressing the cylinder from outside by rolling to insert the acute angle portion in the pressed protruding portion.

18. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the coupling portion forming step comprises a sub-step of forming a thread on an inner surface of the coupling portion.

19. (withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein the cylinder preparing step comprises sub-steps of extruding a pipe which is a base material of the cylinder and cutting the pipe by a predetermined length.